Shelter for pavement dwellers in major Cities

1192. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a scheme to provide shelter for pavement dwellers in major cities of the country; if so, the details thereoof and whether local self-governing bodies would be involved in this scheme;

(b) whether Government have since formulated a comprehensive settlement policy, instead of National Housing policy, to take care of the under-privileged, namely slum dwellers, rural labourers and other vulnerable sections of the society; and

(c) whether the issue was deliberated at the recently held Session of UN Commission on Human Settlements in Delhi and what were the highlights and decisions taken in this conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) A scheme for alleviating shelter problems of the pavement dwellers in the metropolitan cities is being worked out. The Scheme will be implemented with the assistance and active cooperation of the State Governments and development agencies.

(b) Housing has been given priority in the 7th Five Year Plan and has been included in the 20 Point Programme. Point No. 14 and 15 of the 20 Point Programme relate to:

(i) provision of house sites to rural landless workers;

(ii) Construction assistance on allotted house sites;

(iii) Indira Awas Yojana

(iv) E.W.S. Housing;

(v) L.I.G. Housing;

(vi) Environmental Improvement of Slums. The draft National Housing Policy envisages shelter strategies encom passing housing and human settlement problems with due focus on under privileged and vulnerable sections of the society.

(c) "Global Strategy for Shelter to the year 2000" was the theme of the recently concluded Eleventh Session of United Nations Commission on Human Settlements in New Delhi. In its resolution, recommended for adoption by the U.N. General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, the Commission decided that the main objective of global Shelter strategy will be to facilitate adequate shelter for all by the year 2000 and the main focus will be to improve the situation of the disadvantaged and poor. The Commission also urged the National Governments to develop their own appropriate national and sub-national strategies for shelter in the light of guidelines, provided by the Executive Director in his report to the Commission.

Production of serials and telefilms by Doordarshan

1193. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan proposes to produce its own serials and telefilms to be telecast exclusively on Television; if so, what are the modalities of the scheme and by when it is proposed to be implemented;

(b) what promopted Government to take such a decision; and

(c) whether there is any flaw in the present system of registration and approval of serials and telefilms produced by outsiders and if so, the steps taken to improve it?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) For the last few years, Doordarshan has been producing its own serials and telefilms which have been telecast on Doordarshan.